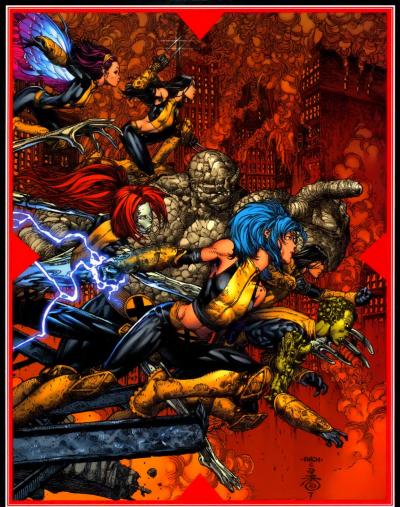
NEW X-MEN





MESSIAH COMPLEX

chapter four

KYLE/YOST MARVEL RAMOS



After M-Day, mutantkind neared extinction. Once hailed as humanity's replacement, it appeared mutants, now reduced to a few hundred, would fade into oblivion. But a new mutant baby has arrived, the first since M-Day, and with it, hope for mutantkind.

Previously in MESSIAH COMPLEX...

The mutant baby is missing, and the X-Men know that both the Marauders and the Purifiers were at the site of its disappearance. Willing to recover the child at any cost, Cyclops dispatched a team of X-Men to track down the Marauders and their leader, Mr. Sinister.

Meanwhile, Cyclops also deployed the de-powered X-Man Rictor to gather intelligence on the mutant-hating Purifiers, who seek to kill the baby because they fear it is the Antichrist. A few months ago, the Purifiers killed many students at the Xavier Institute. Cyclops did not inform the remaining students of the Purifiers' involvement.

Lastly, Jamie Madrox, a.k.a. Multiple Man, went to see the mutant-inventor Forge. As part of Cyclops' plan, two expendable duplicates of Jamie were sent into two different futures to gather intel with no possibility of return. Cyclops didn't plan for Jamie's teanmate Layla Miller to tag along.

The one piece of the puzzle that Cyclops doesn't know about is that the mutant-eating monster Predator X is aware of the baby's existence. And it's hungry...

CHAPTER FOUR:

Craig Kyle and Chris Yost: Writers:
Humberto Ramos: Penciler
Carlos Cuevas: Inker
Studio F's Edgar Delgado: Colorist
Dave Sharpe: Letterer
Will Panzo and Daniel Ketchum: Assistant Editors
Nick Lowe: Editor
Axel Alonso: Executive Editor
Joe Quesada: Editor in Chief
Dan Buckley: Publisher

Cover A by: Finch, Miki, Keith
Cover B by: Campbell, Avalon Studios, Delgado

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X-MEN: MESSIAH COMPLEX CHAPTER 5 - X-MEN #205



Next week-

A rematch between the X-MEN and THE MARAUDERS. The casualties of war mount. And finally an answer to the only question that matters:

WHO HAS THE BABY?



VARIANT COVER

FURY'S FILES

Discovered in a decommissioned S.H.I.E.L.D. safehouse, below is a list of little known facts about the X-Men that Nick Fury had personally collected to be used or leveraged when necessary.



After being shot by a mutant power restricting our designed by Forge and therefore losing har powers, what using shot by a muser, cover neconstrong got beinghed by narrier and extreme seeing lies. Sport was granted the power of Thor; given an Uru Hammer and new weather powers by Lob.

Wolverine's claws actually burst out right through his dist, not through any kind of permanent holes. His mutant healing factor heals the wounds instantly.

X-23 is named due to her being the 23rd extempt to clone Wolkerine and the intact X chromosome that was And as terries out as ref. using size complexings, or other processes also are instant. Or no bounded size, was duplicated to replace the damaged York, which resulted in her being female. She is the only successful dining attempt of Wolverine.

The image inducer Nightonewier uses to appear human was invented by Tony Stark.

Dezvier temporarity acted as a herald of Galactus, when the world-devoursir granted her powers on a cosmic Unicate: compareiny access to a new our construct, when the management of grander to sole so that she could hund down Terras, a former handle who had abused his powers.

In Wend Ars song "White S Nerty" one of the lines is "the been browsin and inspector, X. Men comics you know en visco we send i minor o restry use to us seal is interpretation of expector, it was comice you thought for it couldn't be deem or the perfect of the seal of t

Over the years, the minds of three different X-Wen found themselves trapped in the body of the White Gueen -Jean Grey, Storm and Iceman.

Xevier once had a shapeshifter ramed Changeling assume his identity while he secretly prepared for an elien invasion. Ameri and ries a shapeannder nomed Littergeong assume ha tanday setter to scordly propored on an electriciscon. When the Changeling died in hetale, the X.Men held a funeral for their mentor heining no idea that he was actually elec.

Jubiles suffers from dysceloulis; an inability to complete methematical problems

Beest and Nightcrawler don't have blue skin, only a fine cost of blue fur.

Deedpool was once a bodyguard for Dezzler.

While working as an agent for the C.I.A. Wolverine once seved Spider-Men's parents from Hydre.

Professor X has been crippled (and healed) 4 times:

- 1= In a fight with Lucifer
- 2nd Crushed in a fight with the Shedow King
- 3rd After he got the Techno-Organic Virus 4" - Magneto stopped the nanities in his spine from working

 - way now anapped are named at the spine start was ang.
 (After House of M. the Scarlet Witch had cured his spine, and he is now welking). Storm was originally conceived by Dave Cockrum as "the Black Cas", a character who could transform into a felina creature or a house cat

LOOK WHO'S TALKING! AN ABNETT & ANDY LANNING

MARVEL: You guys are well-known for your sci-fi work here in the U.S. (such as Annihilation and the related series), in addition to your work for 2000 AD in the United Kinadom. What vakes sci-fi such an infinitely interesting genre to you? DAM: I've always been a fan of science fiction, and prew

up reading Vance, Heinlein, Herbert and the like. I also was a regular reader of 2000 AD long before I was a regular contributor. The glib answer is that in SF, you can do just about anything, it's a venue for unbridled imagination. But I think the real key to good SF is when the imaginative possibilities are pushed, yet presented in a way they still seem credible and plausible.

ANDY: Dan and I have also always loved Marvel's cosmic characters and stories, especially Jim Starlin's work on Cantain Maryel and Warlock. In a cosmic setting, a superhern costume becomes more of a uniform or a protective suit. rather than something you put on in a phone booth to protect your secret identity.

> M: You've also been involved in crafting some huge events for Marvel's space characters. What's it like to coordinate something so far-reaching?

ANDY: Dan's written so many combat SF novels for Games Workshop, he's pretty good at keeping control of major nint structures.

BAN: We keep notes. Lots of notes. When we get together to plot and brainstorm. I bring a large holdall full of notes and photocopies and scribbled ideas. We've also been known to cover the door of And/s office with Post-It notes each one with a plot idea or character moment on it, so we can move them around and change the order of sequences. The real secret, however, is (editor) Bill Rosemann, who coordinates it all. •SPOILER ALERT• In Arministion Conquest.

your big reveal was that Litron was the baddle. How did you coordinate that with Brian Bends & his recent usage of Ultron in Mighty Avengers? BAN: We got the okey to use

Ultron, and got to read Brian's first Mighty Avengers scripts n advance, which was a massive treat (both of us are RMR fans) ANDY: I think Annihilation Conquest is going to have to cover the link between

> the stories, and how Ultran ended up where he did.

M: You've been inundated with critical acclaim from all corners. What's it like to receive such universal praise?

ANDY: Fantastic, It's great to hear that we're doing something the way people think it should be done. I don't let Dan read

them. It goes to his head.

BAN: I'm really pleased we seem to be attracting the attention of people who are usually turned off by the word "cosmic." I certainly appreciate all the kind words.

M: Everyone's got their favorite "unappreciated" Marvel hero or team they'd love to write. Who fits the bill for you guys?

DAN: It's easy to pick the Marvel characters we'd love to take a graph at ... The Avengers, Thor, Iron Man, Daredevil...

ANDY: Doctor Strange. The Fantastic Four.

BAN: Absolutely. Trouble is, none of them need fixing, as they're all being handled by such preat teams. Which sucks for us. ANDY: Maybe we can get the Secret Defenders back together? DAN: What, for a benefit concert?

M: Now over in Nove, you've been giving Rich Rider a hard time. Deesn't he deserve a break?

ANDY: He certainly needs III kip*. We were thinking of doing an issue

where he spends the whole thing catching up on his sleep. BAN: Actually, it would be really interesting to find out what his

limits are, even supported by the suit and the Worldmind. How long can he keep running on empty? ANDY: As for the cosmic threats, invasions, emotional bumps,

no one ever said it would be easy being a Nova Centurion.

M: Reading Nove, he seems like a natural fit for you. When writing, does one of you act like Rich and the other act like the Worldmind?

BAN: In terms of personal experience, when we're writing Nova. I tend to think about the time I spent serving two tours with the starcorps off Zeta Reticula

ANDY: Actually, I think the personal experience we both draw on is our memories of reading Nove the first time around, of being kids when he was just a kid getting superpowers. We remember the excitement and the fun.

M: Living in America, sometimes we forget how we appear to the rest of the world and don't realize how funny some things are (such as the massively large portions of food we serve). Any other humorous insights on America that readers might enjoy hearing? DAN: When we're in New York, we're often stopped by strangers

who ask us to "say something in your lovely accent," which is exceedingly weird.

ANDY: You've got very nice trains.

BAN: He's easily pleased. The portion-size thing is absolutely true. I was in Chicago recently, and a waiter had to come out and "demonstrate the meat." such was the range and sheer scale of the steaks on offer. For desert, there was a macadamia turtle pie. Unable to move or remember my own name by that stage, I asked, mockingly, what form the turtle came in. The weiter, deadpan, told me it was the name of the basin they served the half gallon of ice cream in.

ANDY: Just one more wafer-thin mint, sir? I'm always amused by the differences that exist in one language. You say "aluminum" and we say "aluminium," you say "eggplant" and we say "aubergine," you say "herbs" and we say "herbs," Oh, that one doesn't work written down. There's an "h" at the start, people!

* In the UK, a kip is a holiday

'Nuff Said!

The Sequel You've Been Waiting For



A 4-part limited series continuing the untold origin of Iron Man!

Orson Scott Card • Pasqual Ferry Variant Cover by Gabriele Dell'otto

December 2007

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OUESTIONS THAT NEED ANSWERS!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MARVEL MOMENT?



"Probably Amazing Spider-Man #33 when Spidey lifts the giant hunk of junk off himself so that he can go rescue Aunt May. A terrific con nation of words and visuals."
- PETER DAVID - Writer (X-Factor, She-Hulk)

"As a kid, Euptain America getting killed in Infinity Gauntlet, what... five or so, really shocked me. I didn't know any hetter, so I thoughit it was all real permanent sutif. It was crarey. Mow, it's gott be something in the Lee/Kirky Fantastic Four rum... there's so much to choose from." ROBGEN KIRMAN — Writer



"Kitty Pryde joining the X-Men has a very warm place in my heart. That was the issue I discovered the X-Men (and that Wolverine's name was Logan), so it was pretty magical for me."

- MARC GUGGENHEIM — Writer (Amazing Spider-Man, Marvel Comics Presents)



"Let go. Die, Charles. I'm going to catch you." "Phoenix holding Charles Xavier's disintegrating consciousness inside her own ntil his body can be retrieved from Cassandra Nova, Courtesy of Grant Morrison, in New X-Men #125!" MIKE CAREY - Writer

(X-Men. Ultimate Fantastic Four)

day! What, you mean comics moment? Book, good one and difficult to se but one of my favorites was during Frank Miller's tenure as writer ith Bavid Mazzuchelli on Baredevil. In the last issue of "Born Again." e Avengers appear for just a few panels. There's the line about Cap ng Thor to put out the fires "with a voice that could command a god and does." That's the birth of Modern Marvel comics right there and it's clearly an ancestor of Ultimates." - BRYAN HITCH - Artist (Ultimates, Fantastic Four)



Any worktime spent with my father." - JOHN ROMITA Jc - Artist (World War Hulk, Amazing Spider-Man)

NOW YOU KNOW!

FURY'S FILES

Discovered in a decommissioned S.H.I.E.I.D. safehouse, below is a list of little-known facts about the Avengers that Nick Fury had personally collected to be used or leveraged when necessary.



According to the original Avengers chanter, "No Avenger shall be required to surrender knowledge of his According to the original averagess charter, "No averager small ne required to surrender knowledge of the or her civilian identity or personal affairs to the membership at large or the National Security Council."

Although having the appearance of a grown man. Rage was only thirteen years old when he joined

While on a leave of absence from the Fantastic Four so that they could spend more time with their son the Avengers. white on a seave or ansence from the Francisco Front on that one gloculus spanish that white on a seave franklin, Mister Fantastic and the Invisible Woman ended up temporarity joining the Avengers.

The Wasp came up with the name for the Avengers. Kang, Rama-Tut, Immortus, and Iron Lad are all the same person but at different points in their life, living in different eras of time.

After a momentous victory, Hawkeye would often throw a barbeque for the team to celebrate.

Although Matt Murdock has acted as the Avengers' legal counsel, most notably when he helped Authoright mustivariance, uso sector as the averagers' segai counset, most notative when he neigh-them oppose Henry Peter Gyrich's attempt to shut down the team's operation. Daredevit has

Captain America served as the Avengers Chairperson 110 times throughout his membership in the team.

Ultron used the original Human Torch's body to make the Vision. Firestar was originally created for the Saturday morning animated series, Spider-Man and His rmessar was originatry created for the Saturday morning animated series, Spider-sam and His Amazing Friends and eventually made her debut in Marvel Comics when she was recruited by

The Maria Stark Foundation has issued cease and desist letters to the Great Lakes Avengers for Emma Frost to join the Hellions. their use of the name "Avengers."

Avengers Mansion was located at 890 Fifth Avenue in New York City.

While acting us the Avengers' liaison to the United States National Security Council, Heary route acting on the Assington, anatom to the Online of the Control of the Peter Gyrich forced the team to trim their roster to seven members and replace Hawkeye with the Falcon to be in compliance with affirmative action laws.

In their earliest appearances, the Black Widow was a Soviet spy who tricked Hawkeye into helping her steal technologies developed by Stark Industries.

Actor Nicholas Cage changed his surname from Coppola to Cage based on the character of Luke Cage.

The Wasp had eight different costumes in the first ten issues of The Avengers.

